

VOLUME 15, NO. 10.

"You thought clear until some time it happened to be laid close by a new place and then you saw it to be soiled?" In similar way people discover facts about the world as Bart and Johnnie Lee did when the Duke came to live with them. They were "pretty good boys," and would have been very angry if any body had called them delinquents. Well, when their cousin came, they were delinquent. He was a little better but full of fun. He could tell curious things about his home in Scotland and his voyage across the ocean. He was as far advanced in his studies as the Duke. The next day he went to school they thought he was a pretty good. He wanted no time in play when he should have been studying, and he greeted finely. At night before the close boys began to argue. He called a roll, the boys began to answer. Johnnie Lee Willie understood that he was to say "Ten" if he had not whispered during the day, he replied, "I have whispered." "You are a fool," once he asked the teacher. "Yes, sir," answered the teacher. "As many as ten times!" "May be I have," faltered Willie. "Then I shall mark you 'zero,'" said the teacher sternly, "and that is a great disgrace." "Why I did not see you whisper once!" said Johnnie that night after school. "Well, I did," said Willie. "I saw nothing," said he, and asked to borrow a book; then I lent a slate, and he asked a boy for a knife, and did several such things, I supposed it was allowed. "Oh, we all do it," said Bart, reddening. "I never saw any one in the old rule, and nobody could keep it, nobody loses." "I will or else I will say 'I haven't,'" said Willie. "Do you suppose I would do that in one week?" "No, we don't care them lies," muttered Johnnie. "There wouldn't be a credit among us at night if we were so strict." "Well, at that time, if you told the truth?" "I laughed Willie's bragging." In a short time the boys all saw how it was with him. He studied very hard, played with all his might in playtime, but according to his own account he lost his interest in the school work. After some weeks the boys answered "Nine" and "Eight" often than they used to; yet the school room seemed to have grown much quieter. Sometimes, however, the teacher would be a little milder than usual, the teacher would peculiarly, but said up more of "disgrace." Willie never preached at them or told tales, but somehow it made them feel that they themselves, just by seeing that the story was true, were putting Willie to tell the truth. It was putting the clean cloth by the half soiled one, you see; and they felt like cheaters. Story-tellers. They talked him over and loved him. If they had any more to say about "Granite," he was so firm about a promise. Well, at the end of term, Willie's name was very low down in the credit list. When it was read, he had hard work not to cry. He was a good boy, and he had tried hard to be perfect. It was a very last thing that day was a speech by the teacher, who told of once seeing a man murder in a cloak. He was passing the school yard, when he was told that the man was General. "The signs of his rank were hidden, but the hero was there just the same," said the teacher. "And now, boys, you will see that I am right. I tell you that I want to give a little gold medal to the most faithful boy—the one really the most conscientiously 'perfect' in his deportment among you. Who shall have it?" "Little Scotch Granite!" shouted forty boys at once; for the child whose name was so "low" on the credit list had made truth noble in themselves.—*S.S. Visitor.*

THEIR AVERAGE.—The average boy believes that he may be happy when he is a man, and can do as he likes; the average man finds that he cannot do as he likes, and is obliged to think he was not aware of the rights of a boy.

The average maiden imagines that most husbands are indifferent to their wives, and that a wife may keep a man as long as she can, and not be obliged to die; the average man imagines that he can keep a wife as long as he likes, and not be obliged to bear and raise her children, cook, wash, sew, keep her house in "half decent order," and twice a year visit her mother who lives six miles away.

The average farmer imagines that never yet was one so tried as he, nor had a harder lot, and endured it better.

The average parent of the average scholar thinks that in serious things the average child is a good deal better than the average parent.

The average spinster believes that nobody but herself knows just how to bring up children; while the good grandmother or mother realizes that most people have to bring up children, and that they can know how to bring up one properly.

The average man or woman who has never had the care of children wonders "how people can have their houses so clean, and their children so well brought up, and their money so well managed, and their chair," and they imagine that a person's bump of order must so small indeed to cannot successfully manage by moral suasion any five ordinary boys and girls.

The average man or woman who has children knows that they are not like grown people, but must have both physical and mental exercise, even though there may be no other way of getting them to do footprints on the floor. So it comes to pass that an average case it happens in his own conceit, and would not change himself, his views, and his lot in life with any man.

WHAT THE BIRDS ARE ABOUT.—The crow, swift, and night-hawk are the guardians of the bird world. They keep the increase of insects that otherwise would overload it. Wood-peckers, creepers and chickadees are the guardians of the trunks of trees. "Fables and fables" catch the insects that would eat the birds, crows, thrushes and larks protect the surfs of the soil. "Snipe and woodcock protect the soil under the surface. Each of these has its respective duties to perform, and each is doing them. It is no doubt a fact that if the birds were all swept off the face of the earth, man could not live upon it; vegetation would wither and die; insects would begeth, and the world would be a mass of could withstand their attacks. The wholesale destruction occasioned by grasshoppers, which have lately devastated the west, is undoubtedly caused by the birds. The birds are the great grouse, prairie hens, etc., which feed upon the grain and inestimable service done the farmer gardener and florist by the birds is only becoming known by the extermination of the birds. The birds are the great destroyers of fruit, but they are more than compensated by the thousands of insects which they destroy. The locust grasshopper, which has been more than a very great quantity of grub and locust, and even the locusts.